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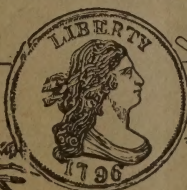
THE NUMISMATIST

August, 1898.

An Illustrated Monthly
devoted to the
Science of Numismatics.

GEO. F. HEATH, M. D. Monroe, Mich.

VOL. XI.



NO. 8.



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THE NUMISMATIST is the only Illustrated Monthly Journal devoted to coins and their collecting published on the American continent.

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The Numismatist.

VOL. XI

MONROE, MICH., AUGUST, 1898.

NO. 8.

THE COINAGE OF CHINA.

[J. A. BRUDIN.]

ADDENDA.

The two plates, XVI and XVII, herewith exhibit the legends on the obverses of the Tsi series of knife money, which are reproduced, either from the actual specimens or from the cuts described and illustrated in the *Numismatist*, Vol. IX, pp. 116-118, (June, 1896).

1. TSI TCHI KIU HWA, eight varieties.
2. TSI KIU HWA, thirteen varieties.
3. TSI CHI HWA, forty-eight varieties.
4. TSIH-MOH YH TCHI KIU HWA, thirty-six varieties.
5. AN-YANG TCHI KIU HWA, thirteen varieties.
6. TCHENG-YANG TCHI KIU HWA, only one specimen known.
7. TSI YNG-LING YH TSO-YH TCHI KIU HWA, two varieties.
8. TSI TSIH AN-YANG FAN WANG TZE KIU HWA, two varieties.
9. TSI FAN YANG TZE ?? TCHI KIU HWA, four varieties.

The fifth and sixth characters of this legend, not being positively identified, the meaning is as yet unknown. Fan Yang probably signifies the name of the place; Tze means a reviving, resurrection or coming to life again after death, and the meaning of the last three characters, Tchi Kiu Hwa, means: "the currency of." The other three varieties of No. 9 are exhibited in the small table—9a—of Plate XVII,

where the fifth and sixth characters of this coin are shown.

E is from a specimen in Mr. W. C. Eaton's collection.

F is from Fonrobert's Catalogue.

K is from Ku tsien hwei.

It is thus shown that the two characters differ considerably in the different specimens, but their similarity convinces us that they are the same legend. La Couperie does not mention them in his work.

The fifth sign is nearest like Wang, (the 3d on Plate III, No. 9, and the 6th on Plate XVI, No. 8,) which means: "to go," "going" or "gone."

The author of Li Tso Hien states that the characters cannot be explained and that he had never seen a specimen of the coin and doubts whether a genuine one exists or not.

The two in Mr. W. C. Eaton's collection are undoubtedly genuine and therefore highly interesting.

On the reverse of a knife cash of Ming (La Couperie, No. 1271) is the character, "Yun," meaning, "to say," which is very like the right half, but when compared with the left half, there is no corresponding modern character like it to explain it.

No sign or character, like or near like the sixth, is found on any ancient coin. The left half is undoubtedly the same as in Hwa, or the last sign in the legend. The right half is nearest like the modern Shih (the tongue), and if so composed, it is HUO (to write). The right half in *Ku tsien hwei* is nearest like Ku (ancient), and if so composed, it is Ku, which means, "tax," "duty," "to value" or "the price." They might also possibly mean a name or part of a name. All these suggestions are, however, speculation.

10. TSI TSIH-MOH YNG-LING TA HENG TCHI KIU HWA, one specimen known.

11. TSI KWANG-TCHUNG WANG LIU HENG KU FAN TZE KIU HWA, one specimen known.

KNIFE MONEY OR CASH OF CHINA.

The following small knife money of China, illustrated in Plate XVIII, were described in the *Numismatist*, Vol. IX, pp. 118-121 (June, 1896).

Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4 are varieties of Ming on the obverse of the Ming knife money.

No. 5: *Tso*=left. Character on the reverse of the blade.

No. 6: *Yu*=right. " " " " "

No. 7: *Wai kiun*=foreign weight " " "

No. 8: *Tai*=eminent " " "

There are over 350 varieties in this Ming series.

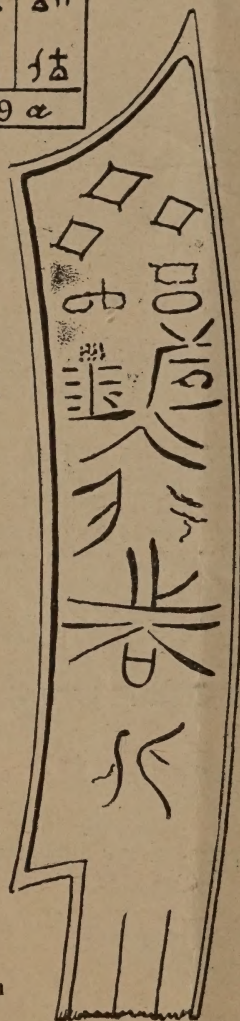
No. 9: *Li tchen yang*, two varieties known.

No. 10: *Lu shih yang*, one specimen.

No. 11: *Tcheng Peh*, or only *Peh*. *Peh* answers to the modern Si Ping in Central Honan. 31 varieties.

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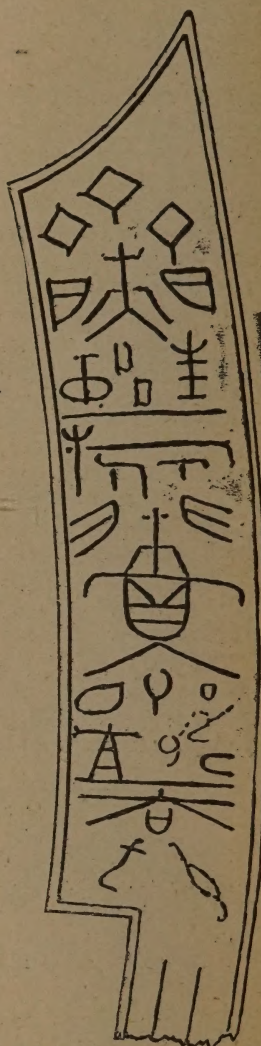
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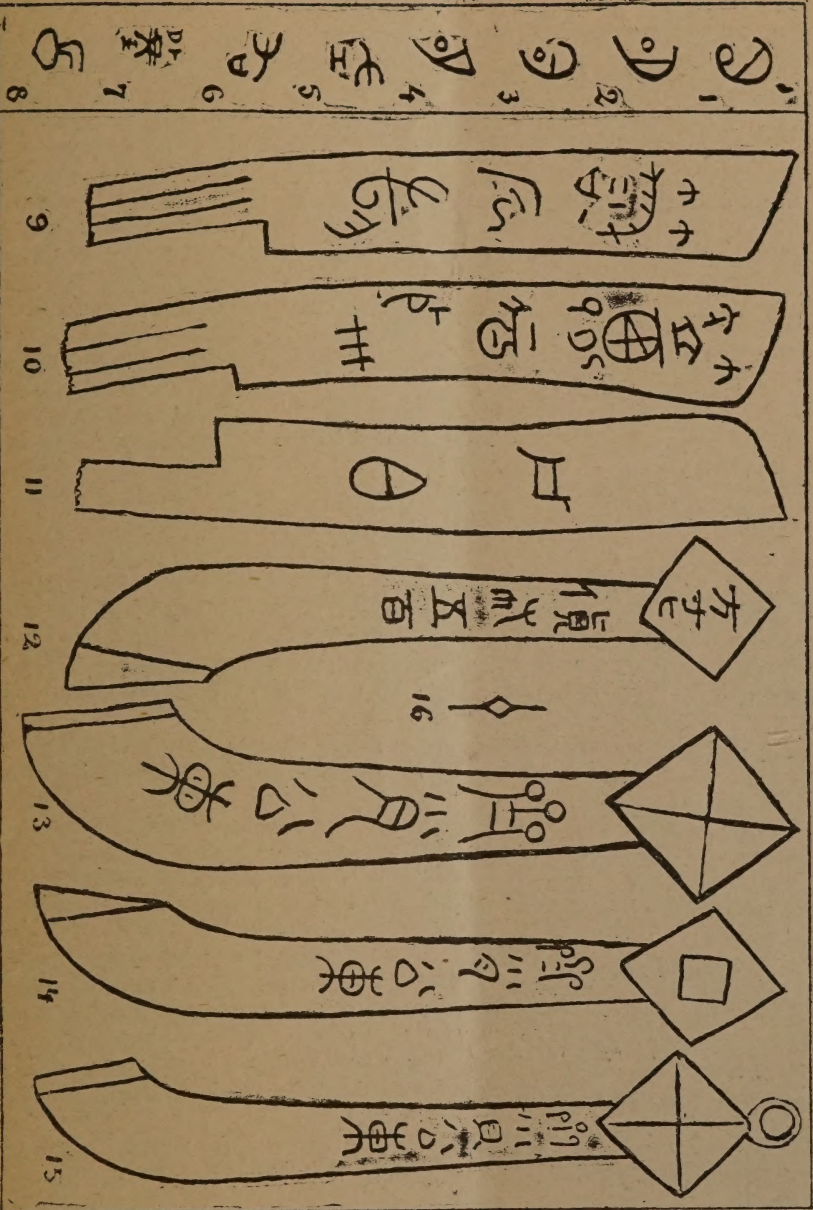
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11

TSI AND
KWAN TOHUNG

B_m



The Coinage of China. (Brundin). Plate XVIII.

Of the *Kan tan* knives, nine varieties are known.

Of the following knife money, but little is known. They pertain to about the Christian Era.

12: *Fang tsun tsih ho pu wu peh*; square tsun, 7; money 500.

13, 14, 15: *Tsi siao kung tung*. Rev. *Shih*=10, probably the value. See plate, No. 16.

Nos. 10, 13 and 15 are in Mr. Eaton's collection.

THE JUDAS COIN.

[C. FREDERICK PAUL.]

It was eight years ago on the second of last April that John Carrington disappeared. I say disappeared advisedly, for to this day I will venture the statement that no one save myself knows what became of that eccentric man.

Every one who knew Boston a dozen years ago knew something also of John Carrington; if not personally, then at least they must have heard some of the strange stories which were told of him.

He lived alone in that big handsome house on Beacon Street, with no one about save a few servants who, it afterwards turned out, knew really nothing of the man or his ways.

He was said to have no relatives, which was probably true, for no one ever laid claim to the large estate which he left.

To say the least, Carrington was odd. There was not one man in Boston though he was better known there than anywhere else, who could claim to know him.

It was common talk that Carrington possessed one of the finest collections of antiquities in existence. Who originated the story I have no means of knowing, for up to the time the house was taken possession of by the authorities, I never heard of anyone gaining admission. It proved to be true however, for probably no finer collection of antiques ever saw the light of day outside the British museum than was found inside the four walls of Carrington's house.

I have made these explanations in order that the reader who never heard of John Carrington may know as much of him as anyone living, myself excepted.

There are reasons, which even to this day I do not care to divulge, why I

have so long kept silent regarding this man—why I have allowed year after year to go by and have not opened my lips as to his strange disappearance, when with a word I could have cleared up the mystery.

But to do that I should have been compelled to disclose the purposes of my journey upon that occasion, and thus give secrets to the world which were not mine to give.

* * * * *

The second of April, 1888, found me in the then miserable little settlement of Mitford, some forty miles west of Calgary, on the Canadian Pacific Railway. That afternoon I was to take the west bound train through to the coast and eventually to civilization.

It was with a feeling of distinct relief that I at last beheld the puffing engines, laboring with the weight of a short train of cars, come into view up the grade.

When I boarded the coach the colored porter informed me that it was a light trip, and with the exception of myself there was but one through passenger.

Business of a private nature kept me employed throughout the afternoon, so I saw nothing of my fellow traveler. After dinner I picked up an old newspaper and adjourned to the smoking compartment.

For probably half an hour I sat reading and smoking, when the compartment door opened and closed again. I turned about, thinking it was the porter, but instead, much to my surprise, I recognized the tall, gaunt form of John Carringford.

He apparently was oblivious of my presence, and walking past me to a chair near the window, he sat down and gazed out into the fast approaching darkness.

I cannot say that I was surprised at his conduct, for it merely bore out what I had always heard of the man.

In answer to a commonplace something he turned toward me for the first time, and I had the opportunity of looking straight into the most singular and at the same time the most fascinating face I have ever seen.

There was a look of keen intelligence in those big gray eyes and a depth of thought in the broad, white forehead, which stamped him at once as a man of unusual character.

One question led to another and it was not many minutes before we were fairly launched in conversation. We talked politics, travel, finance—and then somehow or other we drifted upon the subject of numismatics.

In a moment the conversation was entirely in his hands, and I saw instantly that it was one in which he was a past master.

* * * * *

Such were the circumstances of our meeting and the story. Why Carringford told it all I cannot say, nor will I attempt to analyze, but will merely repeat it as he told it to me.

"Yes," he said, "I have been the most fortunate of the many collectors of

antiques and at the same time the most unfortunate. Misfortune came as the natural sequence of my success."

As I was about to interrupt he commanded silence with a wave of his long, thin hand, and continued:

"A strange contradiction you think it?" Well, have the patience to follow me to the end and perhaps you will think as I do.

"Twenty years ago I had already secured one of the most complete collections of coins in existence. I had traveled the paths of the numismatic student one stage and one step after another until I imagined there was nothing more for me to learn.

"It was then that I thought of the Judas coins.

"No, I see the question in your face," he continued, "I am not mad. Why should not some of the fatal silver still exist? I had in my possession Greek coins of silver and of gold made 500 years before Christ was born. I had also Greek coins of bronze and of tin and copper alloy, minted four hundred years before the Christian era; yes, and some which bore the imprint of seven centuries before the advent of the Savior.

"There are those of Arabia, Athens and Rome minted fully as many years ago. The clearest and most authentic portraits of Nero which exist today are upon the Roman coins. The artist of that day pictured him as he really was upon his own silver pieces.

"A glance at one will show you the ferocity, the obstinacy and the brutality of the man. Some of these coins I had traced to direct events.

"Was it strange, then, after all, that I should look for pieces of silver which existed in so comparatively modern a time as eighteen hundred years ago?"

As Carringtonford continued to bring forward argument after argument in support of his theory, he seemed to become young again. His face lost for the time its lines of age and his eyes shown with a light which I had not seen before.

He never hesitated and never stopped for an instant, but hurried rapidly along.

"Possessed with these thoughts," he said, "I made my way to the Holy Land. Months I worked and studied in and about Jerusalem. The priests of the temple had purchased a field of a potter with the thirty pieces which Judas had cast away from him. The potter must be found.

"After weary months of research I grasped the clue. Simon, the potter, when an old man, had left Jerusalem, a prisoner with Titus and his Roman Legions. From the Holy Land to Italy I went with all speed, and for a year I worked in Rome without results.

"The apparent impossibilities of my work spurred me on with a fervor to which I had hitherto been a stranger. The more insurmountable the obstacles the more eager I was to conquer them.

"I seemed impelled by a force which my whole nature revolted against, but which I was still unable to resist.

"As soon as I was satisfied that Rome could not give me what I sought I turned toward Pompeii. Why should not some trace be discovered here?

"For over seventeen hundred years the city had remained undisturbed. It was exactly as it was on that dreadful twenty-fourth of August, A. D. 79, when Vesuvius buried it under thirty feet of stones, ashes and lava. Here was the one place on earth which centuries had not changed—the one city upon which the civilization of ages had left no mark.

"After weeks and months of fruitless research within the city, I made my way, as tireless as ever to the surrounding country.

"With one exception I will pass by without mention the dozens of villas which surround the three sides of Pompeii. This one was the house of Arrius Diomedes. Situated as it is on the outskirts of the buried city, on the road which leads to Herculaneum, it outdoes its rivals in situation as easily as it does in splendor.

"From this handsome villa has been taken the greatest paintings and richest potteries. Throughout the vaulted corridors were found works in rare mosaics which today are unequaled in beauty and workmanship.

"This was the residence of that old Roman, as the world knew it. The excavators found within these walls seventeen skeletons, but to them they were only bones, over seventeen hundred years old, and they searched no further.

"Had they examined as closely as I did they would have found on the walls of an underground apartment a written record of the house of Diomedes. On the four walls which surrounded this dungeon-like room, he had cut in Latin characters an undying record of the principal events of his life.

"I will pass over a long period which was recorded, not because it lacks interest, but for the reason that it has no connection with this matter. I will merely take the last ten years that the record was kept.

"This portion began by telling how his friend and kinsman, Terentius Acasilius, had gone with Titus to the Holy Land. Next came the sacking of Jerusalem with all the attendant horrors and triumphs. Then upon Terentius Acasilius' return to Rome he sent to Diomedes presents of many goods and five slaves in commemoration of the event.

"Among these slaves was an old gray-haired Jewish potter, who in skill exceeded any of the workmen then owned by Diomedes. For half a dozen years the potter worked well and faithfully for his master, and became a favorite because of his art and industry.

"At the end of that time word was brought to Diomedes that the Hebrew slave was ill, and the overseer who brought the message said he feared the man was a leper. The master laughed at the man's fears and told him to bring the porter before him that he might judge for himself.

"He was brought in, and as he stood before Diomedes, the master's practiced eye told him at once that the slave driver was right. The man was a leper.

"Furious at having his household exposed to the dreaded disease he ordered

the slaves to be led away by his spearsmen and killed.

"At the sentence of death the doomed man fell upon his knees and begged that he might have time to make peace with his God. Diomedes sneered at the supplication and asked what sins a low-bred Jew might have that could be forgiven.

" 'Only this,' answered the old slave, holding up a silver coin bearing the head of Tiberius Cæsar, 'only the possession of this!'

" 'Oh!' exclaimed Diomedes, as he turned to his people, 'a Jewish dog cursed with money. He should have been a jester and not a potter. But go on, slave, and tell us why the possession of this bright piece of good Roman silver is a curse.'

" 'Because,' answered the leper in faltering tones, 'it is the last of the thirty pieces of money which the Man of Kerioth, Judas Iscariot, accepted for the betrayal of Christ. I am Simon, the potter, of whom the priests of the temple bought the field for the burial of the poor.

" 'I am the man who unwittingly took the coins which were the price of blood, and took with them the curse which has followed and shall follow each and every piece until they are no more.'

" 'Proceed, slave,' commanded Diomedes, 'the tale interests me, though, if I mistake it not, misfortune has turned your brain.'

" 'Not so, master,' Simon interrupted, 'never at your potter's wheel has my brain been more clear than now.

" 'I was but a poor man, and knew nothing then of why the priests wished my land in exchange for their silver. I bargained gladly and rejoiced at my fortune.

" 'Divided into equal parts, I gave half the coins to my eldest son, with the command to look well to them, and the remaining fifteen pieces I myself hid in a secret place.

" 'Unknowingly I thus raised strife within my own house, for my younger son felt aggrieved that he had not been trusted with a portion of the treasure. In a dispute which followed, the younger slew the elder and took possession of the pieces. He was then condemned and executed, and shortly afterward their mother died of grief at the loss of her sons.

" 'According to an ancient rite of people, the fifteen pieces which had cost me the lives of those I loved, were destroyed.

" 'For years I feared to touch the silver which remained, and the pieces lay undisturbed. Still, knowing as I did then the awful curse which had followed them, my greed for gain at last overcame my fear, and I took the fifteen pieces to my dwelling.

" 'It was here that they were discovered by a file of soldiers, who tried to take possession of them. I cried aloud in distress and my countrymen came to my assistance.

" 'For a time the Roman spearsmen were beaten off. Then other soldiers came, and more Jews, until the streets all about were a mighty battleground and the earth was red with the blood of both. Following upon this it was

that the mighty Vespasian commanded Titus to destroy Jerusalem as a lesson to my revolting countrymen.

“ ‘Need I tell you of the days of pillage and fire and murder which followed? I am here a slave—condemned to death as an unclean thing—far away from my own land and people—it is enough!’

“As Simon ceased speaking he cast the coin, which he held in a hand white with the marks of leprosy, at the feet of Diomedes; then he continued: ‘It is the last of the accursed money. The rest perished with the city. It has wreaked its vengeance upon me and upon my land and my people. Beware, for all is not over with it yet. Misfortune, ruin, devastation, and death shall follow in its path so long as it exists.’

TO BE CONCLUDED.

A NUMISMATIC HISTORY OF THE THALER COINS OF GERMANY.

[PH. HEINSBERGER.]

Continued from page 178.

BREMEN.

This is a very old German Free City which has since 1871 been a member of the German empire, and next to Hamburg its chief seaport. It is situated on the Weiser and has a population of 125,684 (1890).

Obv. The arms of Bremen. A key within a crowned shield, held by two lions rampant, this inscription surrounding: FRIE HANSESTADT BRE-



MEN. Beneath the arms: EIN THALER GOLD.

Rev. ZUR | 50 JAHRIGEN | JUBELFEIER | DER BEFREIUNG | DEUTSCHLANDS | 1863. | Two blooming oak leafed branches in wreath, tied with bow at base and united by a Maltese cross above, surround the whole. Edge inscription: GOTT MIT UNS.

This thaler was struck on the fiftieth anniversary of the liberation of Germany from French rule.

Obv. Similar to last.

Rev. Two oak branches similar to last but with addition of two guns crossed over bow in knot. Inscription within in six lines: ZWEITES | DEUTSCHES | BUNDES— | SCHIESSEN | IN BREMEN | 1865. Marginal inscription as last.

This thaler was struck to commemorate the 2d German Union Shooting Festival.

Obv. The arms of Bremen and inscription FRIE HANSESTADT BREMEN. Beneath: 1 THALER GOLD.

Rev. Between two oak branches the following inscription in seven straight lines: ZUR ERINNERUNG—AN—DEN—GLORREICH—ERKAEMPET—EN—FRIEDEN—VOM—10—MAI—1871. Marginal inscription: GOTT MIT UNS (God with us). B. (Hanover mint).

This thaler was struck to commemorate the glorious result of the Franco-Prussian war.



Obv. The Bremen Exchange Building with this legend above: GOTT SEGNE HANDEL U. SCHIFFFAHRT. (God bless commerce and navigation.) Beneath, the arms of Bremen between two extended oak branches.

Rev. Oak wreath as first described. Within, in eight lines, this inscription: GEDENK THALER | ZUR | EROFFNUNGS | FEIER DER NEU—EN | BORSE | IN BREMEN | AM 5 NOVEMB | 1864.

This thaler was struck on the opening of the new money or stock exchange to commemorate the event.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

THE PRINCE EDWARD'S ISLAND CENT.



James H. Reddin Charlottetown P. E. I., has this to say regarding the cent of Prince Edward's Island illustrated above. "The coin was issued in 1871, prior to our Province entering Confederation, but of course is quite obsolete now. A few years ago these cents were quite common in our Province, but at the present time are becoming extremely rare. On one side is the arms of Prince Edward Islands and on the obverse the head of the Queen. These coins were issued under the authority of the legislature of the island and I have no doubt that in a few years time it will be very difficult to meet with one passing current as a medium of exchange."

COINS AND COINAGE BEFORE THE CHRISTIAN ERA.

Homer, our unfailing authority for the manners, customs and equipments of the Achaeans in their age of semi-civilization, before their literature began to exist, tells us of the use of iron and copper as money. Plutarch (in "Lysander") suggests that early Greek money perhaps consists of spikes of skewers of iron or of copper, from which fact a small coin was afterward known as obolos; that is, a "spike" or "skewer." Six of these spikes were a handful, or, in Greek, a drachme. Hence came the Greek name of a coin, the drachme, which is important in the history of Bible money.

The invention of coined money has been claimed for several Ionian and Lydian cities. It is quite certain that in one of them, not earlier than 800 B. C., and perhaps not before 700 B. C., the idea entered the mind of some one that it would be convenient, at least in small transactions, to have pieces of precious metal, of uniform fineness and weight, stamped with some device, which would be accepted as authoritative certificate of quality and weight. The idea was adopted. The metal selected was an alloy of gold and silver called electron. The art of engraving was ancient, having been practiced

from remote times in seal engraving in Babylonia and Egypt. The stamp of the seal on clay attesting public and private documents suggested the impression, on soft metal, of a device engraved in hard metal, answering the same purpose in attesting the character of the coin. The earliest known coins are literally lumps of electron, having on one side the rude punch-mark and on the other side the engraved devices. There are several different devices on different early coins which have been found, all works of rude art. It cannot be affirmed which device belongs to which city.

The electron alloy was soon abandoned and gold took its place. Not long afterward and probably at Aegina, silver was first struck in coins. The advance in the art of coinage kept pace with the advance of Greek civilization and culture. The rough punch-mark, which was on all the earlier coins, was replaced by devices on reverse dies. The art spread from city to city and from state to state, the engravers' work rising to the dignity of sculpture, until, in the culmination of Greek art, various issues of the mints were superb medals and medalets, than which no more beautiful gems of engraving, ancient or modern, have ever been known.

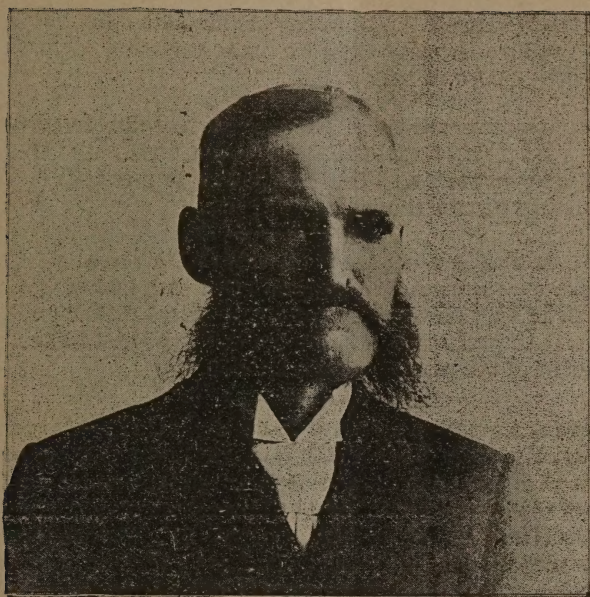
WITH THE EDITOR.

NO ADVERTISEMENTS will be inserted in August or September numbers; a brisk advertising campaign will, however, open up with the October issue.

OUR readers will all be interested in "The Judas Coin," a story we take from *The Quaker* for July published by Frank A. Munsey, New York. This monthly of nearly 200 pages is issued at fifty cents per annum, and is as entertaining as it is cheap.

ON August 19, Simon Champaign, of Prescott, Mich., while building a boat house at Cranberry lake, found an iron box containing several ancient coins and other relics. The coins are stamped with Hebrew letters and with the picture of a woman's head.

DANIEL COLE has succeeded A. T. Spotts as coiner at the San Francisco mint. During the four years ending Aug. 31, 1898, this mint has coined \$153,697,834, of which more than \$125,000,000 was gold of Pacific coast production. The coinage for the month amounted to \$8,160,000, breaking all previous records in the United States. September is expected to make a still better showing as more gold from the Klondike and Australia is expected in the form of nuggets and sovereigns which will rapidly be converted into United States money.



HERBERT E. MOREY.

MANY of our readers will be pleased to look upon the features of the genial dealer in coins and stamps from cultured Boston. A biography of Mr. Morey appeared in an early number of this magazine and nothing preeminently startling has occurred to mar or disturb the even tenor of his life since that period.

THERE is much Association news accumulating, in fact so much that the editor has not been able to find the time to digest it, or space to publish it. But there is no doubt but that the organization will be continued though on somewhat different lines from which it has heretofore existed.

W. C. C. BLUNDEN, box 483, Hornellsville, N. Y., writes: "I enjoy your paper very much and find it a very valuable one and one that I shall always want to keep." Mr. Blunden is desirous of obtaining numismatic literature, especially such as relates to our own country's coinage. He is also an applicant for membership in the A. N. A. and Messrs. Ragan and Heath take pleasure in recommending him as such. The same parties also recommend the application of M. P. Ashbrook, of Granville, O., for membership. Mr. Ashbrook has lately been injured in a railroad wreck and his enforced confinement to his bed turns him to his collection, and THE NUMISMATIST and the A. N. A. is the gainer thereby. "It's an ill wind that does not blow someone good." Here's hoping that he may rapidly recover from the former, but from the latter never.

BROTHER A. G. HEATON is spending the heated season in camp near Luray, Va. He has lately secured the U. S. gold dollar, 1870 mint, which completes his set of gold dollars—seventy-eight distinct varieties. His set of three-dollar gold pieces is also complete.

DR. WRIGHT's article will be given a large installment in our September issue. Nos. 484-742 will be described and about forty cuts will illustrate the text. The American Store and Business Cards is proving an attractive feature of THE NUMISMATIST this year.

F. P. BRADISH, ESQ., a prominent collector of LaCrosse, Wis., and an old-time subscriber to this magazine, is dead. Our first intimation of the event comes through an auction catalogue of Mr. Frossard (his No. 157), in which the collection of United States and foreign coins of Mr. Bradish is offered for sale by the agent of the estate on Sept. 20, 1898.

JOHN PILBEAM, a prominent farmer living about three miles north of Milan, Monroe county, Mich., on August 20th brought into Milan and exhibited twenty-six English sovereigns and two half sovereigns which he had plowed up on his farm the day before. The half-sovereigns were dated 1817, under George III, and the sovereigns 1831, George IV. He believes there are many more where he found these, as he had not made a thorough search. Various theories are advanced as to how the coins came to be there. They were found in ground that has been repeatedly plowed, and he thinks he must have plowed deeper this time to have turned them up. When assured of their value, he said he would go directly home and see if he could mine some more. The value of those he showed was about \$135.

"THE coins kindly sent me as premium to new subscribers were received some time ago and have much pleased me." Hugo Beyer, New London, Iowa.—Wanted, old U. S. gold and silver coins. W. G. Wright, 445, F. St., San Bernardino, Cal.—Frank A. Trieber, Cumberland, Md., has for sale or exchange some uncirculated 1892 Columbian half dollars and rare U. S. stamps.—F. W. Conning, Marysville, Tenn., applies for membership in the American Numismatic Association.—Rev. Jeremiah Zimmerman, Syracuse, N. Y., has Vol. V of Cohen's great work on Roman coins for sale. It is a duplicate to one in his set, and as far as it goes is complete. Address him as to price and further information concerning it.—Remember that Dr. P. B. Wright, No. 57½ Fourth St. Troy, N. Y., is interested in having all collectors of store cards write to him, and W. G. Jerrems, 214 Clark St. Chicago, Ill., is still in the field to exchange good stamps for good coins.—Miss Stearns writes from Northampton, Mass., "I want to tell you that I am delighted with the premium coins."—Notice Dr. Wright's change of address from Utica to Troy, N. Y.—From G. Marchio and N. Majer, Venice, we have received their July catalogue of coins, Italian and Italian states, Nos. 1 to 2,765, and foreign coins 2765 to 3914; 93 pages.



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